



CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF
THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

DD/S&T-2408/63

20 DEC 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief

[Redacted]

25X1A

THROUGH:

Director
National Reconnaissance Organization ☐

25X1

SUBJECT:

Operational Readiness of LIGHTNING BUG
and Requirements of Optical Tracking Drone

REFERENCE:

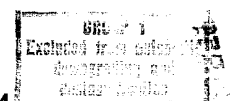
DD S&T memorandum dated 14 August 1963
same subject

1. In the referenced memorandum, it was indicated that continuation of the capability to optically track the LIGHTNING BUG drone was considered to be highly desirable. Additionally, this memorandum proposed that the alert status of the personnel on the optical tracking aspect of the present project against sites in Cuba be changed from a 24-hour to a seven day basis.

2. In view of the continuing probability that no attempt would be made to shoot down the drone in event of its use over Cuba, it does not now appear necessary to maintain the optical capability on a seven day alert status. It is suggested that a state of reasonable readiness to meet a changed situation is presently sufficient.

3. Under the above condition, the equipment involved should be assembled in a dry area and kept in an operable condition under ☐ inventory and controls for deployment as required.

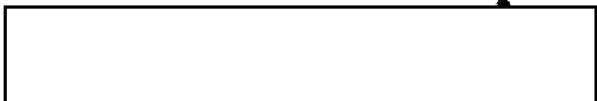
NRO review(s)
completed.



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Requirements of Optical Tracking of Drone**

4. The above recommendation is made to relieve a
burdensome operational situation that is difficult to justify
in the present situation.

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ALBERT D. WHEELON
Deputy Director

CONCURRENCE:



Chairman, COMOR

13 DEC
1963

Date

Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - Addressee
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- 1 - Chairman, COMOR